

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the present title with the following amended title:

**LUBRICATING GREASE COMPOSITION ~~FOR REDUCTION GEAR AND~~
ELECTRIC POWER STEERING APPARATUS**

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

In recent years, resin members are used more frequently in place of various metal members for the sake of reducing the weight of a vehicle or the like. For example, a speed reducing mechanism of an electric power steering apparatus of a vehicle uses a worm wheel gear made of a resin (polyamide) and a worm gear made of steel. As a grease composition used for lubrication between resin members and between a resin member and a metal member, for example, Japanese Patent Laid-open No. H8-209167 discloses a resin grease composition for lubrication containing a fatty acid including a hydroxyl group or a fatty ester of polyhydric alcohol. The grease composition is excellent with respect to the point that, when it is used for a speed reducing mechanism of an electric power steering apparatus of a vehicle, even after use for long time, fluctuations in the torque are suppressed and the user feels that operation on the steering wheel is normal after long time of driving.

Please replace paragraphs bridging page 4 and 5 and the first full paragraph on page 5 with the following new paragraphs:

~~The present invention relates to a lubricating grease composition for a reduction gear and the object of the invention is achieved by adding, for lubrication of a reduction gear, at least a Ca~~

~~sulfonate additive to a lubricating grease made by an urea compound as a thickener and a synthetic hydrocarbon oil as a base oil and is more effectively achieved by also adding montan wax.~~

~~—— The invention also relates to an electric power steering apparatus having a reduction gear structure comprising a steel worm and a worm wheel made of a polyamide synthetic resin, and the object of the invention is achieved by using, for lubrication of the reduction gear structure, a lubricating grease composition made by an urea compound as a thickener and a synthetic hydrocarbon oil as a base oil, to which at least a Ca sulfonate additive is added, and is more effectively achieved by also adding montan wax to the lubricating grease.~~

The object of the present invention is achieved by adding, for lubrication of a structure comprising a metal member and a resin member, at least a Ca sulfonate additive to a lubricating grease made by an urea compound as a thickener and a synthetic hydrocarbon oil as a base oil, and is more effectively achieved by also adding montan wax.

The object of the invention is achieved by the configuration that the structure comprising a metal member and a resin member is a speed reducing mechanism comprising a metal member and a resin member, the speed reducing mechanism is a reduction gear, the reduction gear comprises a gear made of steel and a gear made of a polyamide synthetic resin, the reduction gear comprises a worm and a worm wheel, the reduction gear comprises a worm made of a metal and a worm wheel made of a resin, or the reduction gear comprises a worm made of steel and a worm wheel made of a polyamide synthetic resin, and is more effectively achieved by also adding montan wax to the structure.

The invention also relates to an electric power steering apparatus and the object of the invention is achieved by adding, for lubrication of a structure comprising a metal member and a resin member, at least a Ca sulfonate additive to a lubricating grease made by an urea compound as a thickener and a synthetic hydrocarbon oil as a base oil, and is more effectively achieved by also adding montan wax.

The object of the invention is achieved by the configuration that the structure comprising metal member and a resin member is a speed reducing mechanism comprising a metal member and a resin member, the speed reducing mechanism is a reduction gear, the reduction gear comprises a gear made of steel and a gear made of a polyamide synthetic resin, the reduction gear comprises a worm and a worm wheel, the reduction gear comprises a worm made of a metal and a worm wheel made of a resin, or the reduction gear comprises a worm made of steel and a worm wheel made of a polyamide synthetic resin, and is more effectively achieved by also adding montan wax to the structure.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 5 with the following amended paragraph:

In the present invention, for lubrication of a reduction gear, at least Ca sulfonate additive is added to a lubricating grease made by an urea compound as a thickener and a synthetic hydrocarbon oil as a base oil. By the addition, the coefficient of friction is improved. By also adding montan wax, the coefficient of friction is further improved. By adding Ca sulfonate, an effect of decreasing the sliding performance (coefficient of friction) of a reduction gear

constructed by a metal worm and a worm wheel made of a polyamide synthetic resin at a room temperature or higher can be obtained.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

As Ca sulfonate, for example, a calcium metal salt of a sulfonated alkyl-substituted aromatic compound and a material obtained by further overbasing the calcium metal salt with a calcium hydroxide or an oxide and carbon dioxide are preferable. Such sulfonate can have, as a substituent group, an alkyl group having the number of carbons of 1 to 20. As the Ca sulfonate, overbased Ca sulfonate is preferably used since it improves the operation efficiency of an electric power steering gear. Although the base number of the Ca sulfonate is not limited, preferably, it lies from 10 to 500 mgKOH/g, more preferably, 20 to 300 mgKOH/g. Preferably, 0.1 to 10% by weight of the Ca sulfonate is contained in the composition of the invention. More preferably, 0.2 to 3% by weight of the Ca sulfonate is contained.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

The grease composition of the invention can be easily produced by mixing a base oil, a thickener, a montan wax, and at least a Ca sulfonate additive at desired mix proportion.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 12 with the following amended paragraph:

In the invention, a lubricating grease composition is obtained by adding at least a Ca sulfonate additive to a lubricating grease made by an urea compound as a thickener and a

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synthetic hydrocarbon oil as a base oil. The result of the Bowden test in the case where the Ca sulfonate additive is added and that in the case where the Ca sulfonate additive is not added are obvious from the tables 1 to 3. The coefficient of friction at room temperature or higher in the case where the Ca sulfonate additive is added is largely improved.